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NEW RECREATION DIRECTOR APPOINTED BY CITY COUNCIL

County Official Hired

The City Council unanimously approved the appointment of Harry B. VanBellehem as the new recreation director for Torrance starting August 1.

Qualifications
VanBellehem, who took first place in a civil service examination given for the post several months ago, announced that he was anxious to obtain this position. He has been senior recreation director for the Los Angeles county department of parks and recreation. He served with that department as supervisor of the recreational program and personnel for the last six years.

The new director will replace Frank Carpenter who was informed of his dismissal two weeks ago by the City Council.

VanBellehem met with members of the City Council and City Manager Stevens prior to Tuesday night's council meeting. At that time he expressed his interest in the position and was told of the pay which he will be asked to follow. The new director will look over the recreational facilities in the city and the personnel and will make his own recommendations to the City Council. He will have recommendations on the whole over - all recreational program which has been such a point of contention in recent months.

VanBellehem has been a Torrance resident for the last 12 years and lives at 2071 W. 162nd st. He is married and has two children.

'Little Merchant Plan' Used for Press Distribution

Torrance Press carrier boys are in business for themselves. They are given the newspapers, a delivery route, and the opportunity to develop habits of industry and responsibility.

When they stop at your door each month they are asking for a small sum in payment of their services. What they earn they keep. The sum you give them shows your appreciation of their careful service and is their compensation.

The amount you give them is purely optional. You are entitled to receive your copy of the Torrance Press regardless.

Budget Grants Pay Hike to City Workers

All city employees, including firemen, policemen, and the bus drivers have been granted a 3% pay hike starting July 1.

The increase was accepted by the City Council Tuesday night when it adopted the tentative annual budget submitted by City Manager George Stevens. It has been stated that the budget, which will require two more hearings before it is permanently adopted, will be accepted most likely as is.

The major item in the General Fund Budget is salaries for personnel. For the coming year approximately 75% of the operating expenses will be allocated to payrolls. Approximately \$45,000 will be required for the proposed increase. Salary schedules for our City will compare favorably with comparable cities in the vicinity.

Population Census
It is planned to hold a Special Census late this summer to officially establish the city's population at a figure above forty thousand. (Continued on Page 2)

Two Men Injured in Explosion

Two men who were severely burned when slag, on which they were working, exploded at the Columbia Steel Co. last Saturday, are said "to be doing nicely."

Taken to Torrance Memorial Hospital were John W. Armstrong, 46, of 1340 W. 216th st., who suffered severe burns and lacerations of the face, and Espiridon Pina, 57, of 21701 Madrona who was treated for second and third degree burns and lacerations of the face and chest.

Cause
The explosion occurred when Armstrong attempted to break up the "slag button" with his crane. The slag button is "no good steel" which is broken into pieces after it has cooled and thrown on the dump. Spokesmen believe that the hot slag came in contact with a pool of water which caused the explosion.

Large chunks of slag traveled as far as a filling station at Arlington and Border where a fire started. Captain Bob Lucas and Torrance fire department engine crew extinguished the fire quickly with little damage to the station.

TRAFFIC HAZARD PROMISED IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION

Immediate steps are being taken to remedy a traffic hazard which might cost the life of any one of the 2,000 children, many from the Torrance area, who go daily to the Alondra Park swimming pool and which hazard has already been responsible for injuries to several children.

Officials contacted
Deputy County Supervisor Ernest Winter has appointed Harry Laughon, assistant field deputy and former mayor of Compton, to see what can be done about the dangerous Redondo Beach blvd. and Yukon intersection which has no stop signals of any kind and where cars zoom by all day long at 50 and 60 miles per hour while 2000 kids virtually "take their lives into their hands" daily trying to cross to or from the swimming pool.

After the seriousness of the situation was called to the attention of this newspaper, a representative of this paper looked into the matter immediately and contacted Deputy County Supervisor Winters. Winters stated that no complaint had been registered with him so far about that particular traffic situation but stated that he would have it investigated promptly, notifying this paper of further action.

Remedies
Various remedies have been suggested by people who have been intimately concerned with the problem. Roger Caukin, pool mgr. was grateful to hear that the situation is being looked into. "We worry about it . . . and we are expecting accidents," he said. A pedestrian-activated push-button signal was his remedy. This would not stall traffic unnecessarily while providing safe crossing for the children, he stated.

Sgt. Bill Evans of the Torrance Police Department. (Continued on Page 2)

Harvey Gets Partial AF Cancellation

No attempt is being made to change the locale of "defense work" or in any way to divert it from western contractors, an Air Force spokesman said in commenting on the cancellation of several presses which were slated originally for the Harvey Machine Co. The Air Force spokesman said that this step represented a partial termination and a change in emphasis in defense preparation.

Three Presses
The presses involved were three huge presses used to form single. (Continued on Page 2)

Grand Tour For Teachers Undertaken

"Seeing is believing" could well be the explanation for a very remarkable undertaking. The undertaking referred to is an inspiring trip to the great American historical landmarks planned exclusively for teachers, so they may return to their classes and inspire their students as they will have been inspired through first-hand experience. This imaginative project is being made possible at the Long Beach State college mainly through the efforts of Ross Sciarrotta, 1630 Beech, regularly a history teacher at Jefferson high school and a visiting instructor at Long Beach State college during the summer.



ROSS SCIARROTTA
... imaginative

Sciarrotta will guide the sixteen teachers who have signed up for this course, which carries three graduate credits, on a 10,000 mile tour of famous historical places. The group, which left Sunday, will be gone one whole month.

Places of Interest
Among the arrangements which Sciarrotta made, are a visit to the TVA; a meeting with Representative Craig Hosmer and Senator Kuchel, who, in turn, made arrangements for having the group attend a session of the House of Representatives and the Senate and go on a special tour of the White House not generally accorded.

(Continued on Page 2)

G. Stevens Given Pay Increase

By a unanimous vote, members of the City Council last Tuesday night voted a \$1000 salary increase for City Manager George Stevens, bringing his new salary to \$12,000.

Councilman Harvey Spelman prefaced the motion with the following remarks: "I would like to have the newspapers take special note of this matter. We have in the office of city manager a very able and competent man. Because of our confidence in him, I move that he be given a salary increase of \$1000 starting July 1."

Council Nixes Industrial Iron Curtain

Following nearly two hours of persuasive testimony for and against, the City Council voted in favor of rezoning the 55-acre tract, located south of Sepulveda and east of Hawthorne, from heavy industrial (M-2) to residential (R-1). The action, which reverses a Planning Commission recommendation, was passed by an overwhelming 4-1 vote.

It has been stated that about 300 homes at \$11,000 cost each will be put into the area by Harold Hengensten and Associates shortly.

Mayor Dissents
Mayor Mervin Schwab was the only dissenting voice. Before the actual vote was taken on this controversial issue, members of the City Council commented on their attitude in the matter.

The Mayor declared that he had always felt that the area should remain an industrial zone and that this had remained his sincere conviction, without any outside pressure being brought to bear on him.

Much Pressure
Councilman Willys Blount declared that great pressure had been brought to bear on him and threats that he would be removed from the Council if he voted for changing the industrial zone to a residential. Despite pressure, Blount voted for the change.

Councilman Harvey Spelman, who also voted for the change, said that industry ought to be in the north end of Torrance and that the large land-owners ought to learn a lesson, namely, that the city is growing in spite of them.

Councilman Nick Drule moved that the change of zone be granted. (Continued on Page 2)

Residents Warned of Solicitors

New sub divisions and home developments are due for a lot of calls by out of town solicitors selling anything from home freezers to magic paint jobs now that warm weather and longer working hours are at hand.

Ask For License
Your Chamber of Commerce urges all citizens to demand to see the Torrance City Business License or a Chamber of Commerce Membership Card before obligating themselves for any merchandise or services. The Chamber of Commerce membership card is issued only to local concerns representing legitimate projects.

Card No Endorsement
The issuance of this white colored card is not an endorsement of the proposition submitted and any action taken is left to the discretion of the person or persons soliciting.

Almost daily the Better Merchants Division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce receives calls from some irate housewife or citizen who have found themselves taken in by some fast talking salesman, who obtained their signature on a contract obligating themselves for merchandise or service to an unknown company usually located out of town with no guarantee back of the product or ability to perform their part of the contract. "If you do not know the merchant, investigate before you invest."



BILLY EDENS, Pack 228C (seated, left), and Larry Robertson, 228C, have suddenly discovered that the one thing better than selling tickets to the Scout Community Breakfast is to eat the breakfast itself, and they have given graphic expression to their feelings. In the meantime Leo Robertson, Scout Troop 218, decides to sell his mother, Mrs. R. M. Robertson, a ticket even though she is general chairman for the affair which will be held this Saturday, June 27, from 8 a.m. till noon at Jim Dandy Market. Even little Lana Robertson is being talked into a ticket by Ronald Cook, Pack 241C. Tickets may be purchased at the store or from Scouts as they make their house-to-house rounds.

IT WAS HARD, BUT . . .

Waitress Convinces Patron He's Uncle

A restaurant, a good-looking waitress, a customer who has been coming in regularly for breakfast every morning and you have the setting for . . . almost anything.

What happened to Miss Barbara Bason, however, is one of those very rare things which is usually scoffed off as "incredible" when it happens in the movies.

This last Monday morning saw something different in the routine with which Miss Barbara served Sam Kleinkopf at George's restaurant on El Prado near Cravens. Barbara simply went up to the man whom she had waited on regularly since November and said:

"You are my uncle!"

Unconvinced
The reaction was swift and fairly predictable, for Kleinkopf simply looked up rather unconvinced and asked:

"Fine. Now tell me, where did you get that from?"

"My grandmother told me you were my uncle," Barbara continued.

"Oh, that really convinces me," was the gist of the reaction.

Not until Barbara took her "uncle" home that night and showed him family pictures was Sam Kleinkopf sold on the idea. His belief and happiness became as strong as his skepticism was originally.

The key to the missing person case was grandma. Barbara, who had brought her grandmother out here from Los Angeles to spend a few days said that grandma kept talking about a brother who was known to have moved to Torrance many years ago. The more grandma talked, the clearer the picture got, till finally Miss Bason recognized. (Continued on Page 2)

Mayor Asks For Prayers At Sessions

Members of the City Council agreed to start their meetings off with a prayer to be spoken by a visiting minister at each of the sessions from now on.

Mayor Mervin Schwab proposed that Torrance follow the example of President Eisenhower and other civic meetings where invocations have become customary. Members of the Council unanimously approved of this move and a resolution to that effect is being drawn up.

Crazy-Quilt Ads, Real Gone Results

When people are crazy they are slightly out of their mind.

When quilts are crazy they are, well . . . crazy quilts.

When teen-agers are "crazy" they are "real gone."

But when ads are crazy, they are real-gone crazy-quilt ads as the following one placed in Press Classifieds by Mrs. Peggy Blatz, 616 E. Carson St.:

FOR SALE—Grey leather contour chair, bed, day-vent, reasonable. Call after 6 p.m. or Sunday, 616 E. Carson, Apt. 3 on Ave. B.

This ad would not qualify as a "real gone crazy-quilt ad" if it weren't for the results. "Why, I sold everyone of these different things almost immediately after the paper was out," commented Mrs. Blatz, " . . . exceptional results . . . very well satisfied."

Think it's crazy to put an ad in the paper? Think you're nothing but a lot of crazy things to sell? Why not put a crazy-quilt ad in the Press Classifieds and watch the real-gone results!



FALL TALES might be the order of the day most of the time with the Toastmasters Club, but for once things are on the level as Sergeant Bill Evans, of the Torrance police force and deputy governor of Torrance Toastmasters Club No. 695, congratulates President Walt Schaefer on the chartering of the new Club No. 1274. Officers of the newly chartered club are, from left to right: Frank Young, secretary; Dick Bonham, treasurer; (Sgt. Bill Evans); Walt Schaefer, president; Bob Owens, vice-president; Ted Crnett, deputy governor. (See story, p. 7.)



"WE'LL DRINK A CUP OF KINDNESS YET . . ." Reminiscing over the good old times at their graduation party are these hardy "graduates" of the Torrance Cooperative Nursery School which meets at St. Andrews Episcopal church, 1432 Engracia; (left to right) Steve Cahow, Debbie Dahlen, Mrs. Marjorie Jordan (the director and not a "graduate"), Coby Roberts, Jay Stewart, and Susie Kerber. Everyone is happy because it isn't every day that one graduates to kindergarten after the successful completion of a year in nursery school. Peter Sprague, also a graduate, couldn't quite make the party.